



AVAILABILITY

The DSM is at Alawa on Wednesdays and Fridays. On those days the DSM spends time supporting in classrooms, interacting with students in the playground and connecting with families. Defence Kids Club is hosted during a Wednesday lunchtime. The Defence students are encouraged to bring a buddy along to join in with the activity.

The DSM is available Wednesday after school and Friday mornings if you would like to talk in person. Otherwise if you need to contact the DSM at another time please email directly or call the school.



WHEN TO CONTACT

- Upon enrolment, please let the school know that you are a Defence family and if you child(ren) have any special requirements. That way the DSM can make contact with your family and be available to assist with the transition to a new school.
- Please make your DSM aware when the serving member is absent from home for work purposes. This ensures the DSM knows to check in with your children and offer extra support if needed.
- If your child(ren) are experiencing any issues or challenges at school.
- If you require assistance connecting with Defence organisations or programs in your area.
- Once you have received a posting order. The DSM can offer support to your child(ren) and assist with the anticipated transition to a new school.

Contact:

- 📍 27 Pett Street, Alawa 0810
- 🌐 alawaprimary.nt.edu.au
- ✉ laura.thiele@education.nt.gov.au
- ☎ (08) 8997 7666



ALAWA PRIMARY
SCHOOL



DEFENCE
SCHOOL MENTOR
PROGRAM



About Alawa

Alawa Primary is a small, community-minded school located in the northern suburbs of Darwin. The school caters for children from Preschool through to Year 6. Alawa aims to meet the needs of the full spectrum of the student cohort. This includes our families with connections to the Australian Defence Force. We are pleased to offer extra support to those children and families through the DSM program.

DSM Program Objectives



CONNECT WITH FAMILIES

And provide information regarding the school environment and support available and relevant to their child's development.



SUPPORT DEFENCE STUDENTS

To access school based social and emotional support, aligned to school policies.



FACILITATE OPPORTUNITIES

For children to build relationships and connections through events and other initiatives



RAISE AWARENESS

Amongst the school community about the impacts of the Defence lifestyle on children and families.



Your DSM

The current DSM at Alawa Primary School is Laura Thiele. Laura has understanding and empathy for the challenges that Defence families can face and the support that children need.